This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. ~~The use of~~ A method for demulsifying an oil/water emulsion, said method comprising adding to said emulsion a crosslinked alkoxylated polyglycerol ~~polyglycerols~~, crosslinked with a multifunctional electrophilic compound ~~compounds with~~ having a molecular weight of from 1000 to 100 000 units and comprising ~~which comprise~~ 5 to 100 glycerol units which are alkoxylated with C2-C4-alkylene oxide groups or a mixture of such alkylene oxide groups so that the crosslinked alkoxylated polyglycerol has a degree of alkoxylation of from 1 to 100 alkylene oxide units per free OH group, ~~for demulsifying oil/water emulsions~~ said crosslinked alkoxylated polyglycerol being added to the oil/water emulsion in amounts of from 0.0001 to 5% by weight, based on the oil content of the emulsion to be demulsified.

2. The ~~use as claimed in~~ method of claim 1, in which the number of glycerol units is between 5 and 50.

3. The ~~use as claimed in~~ method of claim 1 [[and/or 2]], where the alkoxylated, crosslinked ~~polyglycerols have~~ polyglycerol has a molecular weight of from 3000 to 50 000 units.

4. The method of claim 1 ~~use as claimed in one or more of claims 1 to 3~~, in which the average degree of alkoxylation is between 1 and 70 alkylene oxide units per free OH group.

5. The method of claim 1 ~~use as claimed in one or more of claims 1 to 4~~, in which the alkylene oxide is ethylene oxide or propylene oxide.

6. The method of claim 1~~use as claimed in one or more of claims 1 to 5~~, in which a coalkoxylation with ethylene oxide and propylene oxide in the ratio of from 1:2 to 1:10 is present.

7. The method of claim 1 ~~use as claimed in one or more of claims 1 to 6~~, where the ~~crosslinking of the polyglycerols takes place by means of~~ multifunctional electrophilic compound is selected from the group consisting of bisphenol A diglycidyl ether, butane-1,4-diol diglycidyl ether, hexane-1,6-diol diglycidyl ether, ethylene glycol diglycidyl ether, cyclohexanedimethanol diglycidyl ether, resorcinol diglycidyl ether, glycerol diglycidyl ether, glycerol triglycidyl ether, glycerol propoxylate triglycidyl ether, polyglycerol polyglycidyl ether, p-aminophenol triglycidyl ether, polypropylene glycol diglycidyl ether, pentaerythritol tetraglycidyl ether, sorbitol polyglycidyl ether, trimethylolpropane triglycidyl ether, castor oil triglycidyl ether, diaminobiphenyl tetraglycidyl ether, soya oil epoxide, adipic acid, maleic acid, phthalic acid, maleic anhydride, succinic anhydride, dodecylsuccinic anhydride, phthalic anhydride, trimellitic anhydride, pyromellitic anhydride, dimethoxydimethylsilane, diethoxydimethylsilane, toluene diisocyanate, diphenylmethane diisocyanate, and mixtures thereof.

8. The method of claim 1~~use as claimed in one or more of claims 1 to 7~~, where the crosslinking step is carried out after the alkoxylation of the polyglycerols.